Vegetabis waste Compost, Biofertilizers production and Hatcheries for vermiculture etc.

Status of Litchi Development and Research Centre

†1029. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the up-to -date position of Litchi Development and Research Centre to be established in Mujaffarpur of Bihar; and

(b) by when, it would start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The National Research Centre for Litchi established in Mujaffarpur, Bihar in 2002 is already functioning.

Promoting Cold Water Fisheries

1030. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the measures being taken for increasing production of cold water fisheries;

(b) whether Government have assessed the capacity of the production of the said variety on the basis of the survey of various hill States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken for encouraging the production of such variety offish in the States which are yielding lesser than their capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) On the basis of vast and varied cold water fishery resources available in the country, the Government launched a pilot scheme on Development of Coldwater Fisheries and Aquaculture in Hill Regions with 100% central assistance in the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Uttaranchal in the terminal year of Ninth Plan (2001-02), The pilot scheme was implemented by the respective states with the technical support from the concerned fishery institute of ICAR.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture. Development of Coldwater Fisheries is one of the programmes being implemented by the respective states under the scheme from the current year (2004-05) onwards. Under the scheme expenditure on developmental activities, such -as, resource survey report/feasibility report, short-term investigations/ breeding/rearing etc., construction/renovation/extension/remodeling of fish farms, establishment of feed units, farming units for coldwater fish species, running water fish culture units and training of fishers is shared on 75:25 basis between the Government of India and State Governments.

Spurious Fertilizers and Pesticides

1031. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any action to curb the menace of unscrupulous manufacturers dealing in spurious seeds of foodgrains including cotton seeds, fertilizers and pesticides;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government would assure of taking concrete measures to curb the growing menace of spurious seeds of foodgrains including cotton seeds, fertilizers and pesticides, affecting adversely, the agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) To regulate the quality of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides, the Government is enforcing the Seeds Act, 1966, Seeds Rules, 1968, Seed (Control) Order, 1983, Fertilizer (Control) Order 1985 and Insecticides Act, 1968. Inspectors notified under these legal instruments are empowered to draw the samples, seize the stock, issue stop sale order in case the commodities under reference contravene these Acts, Rules and Orders.

Adequate laboratories have been notified for testing the quality of these commodities so as to curb the menace of Spurious seeds of foodgrains including cotton seeds, Fertilizers and Pesticides.